

Message Text

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53

ORIGIN NEA-09

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SCA-01 /024 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/ARN:DAKORN:GCB

APPROVED BY NEA/ARN:DAKORN

SCS - MR. DAVIS

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P 041727Z MAR 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS PRIORITY

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E.O11652: GDS

TAGS: CASC

SUBJECT: GREENEY-CROSS CASE

FOR AMBASSADOR FROM KORN

1. ON MARCH 3 AND 4 I SPOKE TO JOANN GREENEY'S PARENTS AND LAWYER FOR CROSS FAMILY TO FILL THEM IN ON EMBASSY'S EFFORTS TO GAIN ACCESS TO GREENEY AND CROSS. I MADE CLEAR OUR CONCERN OVER SARG'S FAILURE TO GRANT ACCESS THUS FAR, DESPITE FOREIGN MINISTRY'S PROMISE, AND SAID WE WILL CONTINUE TO PRESS HARD FOR ACCESS AND EXPECT IT TO BE GRANTED SHORTLY. GREENEY'S PARENTS AND CROSS FAMILY LAWYER EXPRESSED UNDERSTANDING OF DIFFICULTIES EMBASSY FACES BUT WERE OBVIOUSLY CONCERNED AND ANXIOUS TO HAVE WORD ON JOANN'S AND LEONARD'S WELFARE AND MORE INFORMATION ON THEIR SITUATION.

2. WITH MORE THAN A MONTH HAVING ELAPSED SINCE GREENEY'S AND CROSS' ARREST, SARG'S FAILURE TO ALLOW ACCESS AND PROVIDE MEANINGFUL INFORMATION ON CASE IS BECOMING INCREASINGLY DIFFICULT TO UNDERSTAND EVEN FOR ONE WELL AWARE OF HOW SYRIANS OPERATE IN THESE MATTERS. HOPE YOUR TALK WITH

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SENIOR SECURITY OFFICIAL WILL BREAK THE IMPASSE VERY SOON.

SUBSTANTIAL FURTHER DELAY IN GAINING ACCESS COULD CAUSE US
PROBLEMS. KISSINGER

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